

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 208339

62

ORIGIN EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 SPC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 AF-04 IO-03

SSO-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 PRS-01 CCO-00 /064 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:CKJOHNSON:CEK

APPROVED BY P - AMBASSADOR PORTER

EUR - MR STABLER

S/S - MR. D. MILLER

NEA TASK FORCE:HHSTACKHOUSE

----- 031317

P 200007Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208339

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

1. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ORTONA CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY PORTER OCTOBER 18 TO OUTLINE GOI VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. HE HANDED OVER TEXT OF HIS YALKING POINTS PAPER (TRANSMITTED IN SEPTTEL) AND WENT ON TO COMMENT THAT STATEMENT OF GOI VIEWS CONTAINED NO NOVELTIES; THE GOI HAS TAKEN FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TOWARD DIPLOMATIC STEPS WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN VIS A VIS SOVIETS AND STRONGLY HOPES FOR CEASE FIRE AND ULTIMATE NEGOTIATIONS. WHAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE *02 STATE 208339

FOREIGN MINISTER MORO HAS MOST IN MIND, ORTONA CONTINUED,

IS ACHIEVING CEASE FIRE THROUGH UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US AND SOVIET UNION. GOI RECOGNIZED THAT FLOW OF SUPPLIES INTO MIDDLE EAST WAS STARTED BY SOVIETS, AND IF US REACTED WITH SUPPLY OPERATION TO ISRAELI, IT WAS DONE IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN EQUILIBRIUM.

2. IN ADDITION TO GOI STATEMENT, AMBASSADOR ORTONA STATED HE HAD JUST LEARNED THROUGH PHONE CALL FROM ROME THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD SENT CIRCULAR TELEGRAM TO ITALIAN EMBASSIES IN EASTERN EUROPE REQUESTING THEM TO BRING GOI VIEW ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION TO ATTENTION OF HOST GOVERNMENTS, ALSO REQUESTING HOST GOVERNMENTS TO AVOID ANY ACTIONS, EITHER OF DIRECT OR INDIRECT NATURE, WHICH MIGHT JEOPARDIZE PEACE EFFORTS.

3. AMBASSADOR ORTONA THEN SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO RAISE A NOTE OF CAUTION WITH REGARD TO A MATTER AFFECTING THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS, WHICH CONTINUES TO REPRESENT OUR INTERESTS IN SYRIA. THE EMBASSY THERE IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT AMERICAN CITIZENS MAY VOLUNTEER FOR MILITARY SERVICE IN ISRAEL AND EVENTUALLY TURN UP IN SYRIA. IF THIS HAPPENED, IT WOULD CREATE A DIFFICULT SITUATION FOR THE EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR ORTONA'S QUERY ABOUT HOW WE SEE THE NEAR TERM SITUATION, AMBASSADOR PORTER REITERATED OUR HOPE FOR A CEASE FIRE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES AND LEADING TO NEGOTIATIONS. WE CONSIDER KOSYGIN'S TRIP TO CAIRO AS A PROBABLY CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT. IF IT YIELDS NO POSITIVE RESULTS, HOWEVER, THEN PROSPECTS WILL BE BLEAK. WITH REGARD TO THEIR RESUPPLYING EFFORT, THE SOVIETS THEMSELVES CAN PERCEIVE THE OPERATION AS SENDING ARMS INTO A BOTTOMLESS PIT. IT MUST CREATE STRAINS FOR THEM, AND IS CLEARLY NOT A SITUATION THEY WANT TO CONTINUE INDEFINITELY. WE ARE HAVING FREQUENT AND RAPID EXCHANGES WITH THE SOVIETS. BUT WHAT IS NOT CLEAR IS WHETHER THERE IS ANY GIVE IN THE ATTITUDE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT. WE HAVE EXPLAINED OUR POSITION TO THE ISRAELIS, BUT WHETHER EITHER WE OR THE SOVIETS HAVE SUFFICIENT LEVERAGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 208339

BRING AN END TO THE CONFLICT IS SIMPLY NOT YET CLEAR. THERE ARE CERTAINLY NO RESULTS IN SIGHT AS YET. IN THE MEANTIME OUR SUPPLY AIRLIFT CONTINUES BECAUSE WE CANNOT PERMIT THE SOVIETS TO DETERMINE THE MILITARY BALANCE.

KISSINGER****

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE208339
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CKJOHNSON:CEK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS PORTER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731019/aaaaanvd.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <23-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION
TAGS: PFOR, XF, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005